Calcoin News

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE
California State Numismatic Association

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Volume 10, Number 5

SEPTEMBER 1956

Santa Barbara Convention

HOTEL MAR MONTE, NOV. 8-11

By WILLIAM H. SPENCE, Co-Chairman

Plans are nearing completion for the 19th semi-annual convention of the California State Numismatic Association, to be held Nov. 8-11 at the Hotel Mar Monte in Santa Barbara.

The convention will open on Thursday, with registration starting at 10 a.m., at which time the bourse and exhibits will be set up. The numismatic forum, with Thomas W. Ward as chairman, will be held Friday evening. Plans for this event provide for it to be conducted as an open forum, with a panel and the moderator leading the discussion.

There will be a breakfast for all coin club officers on Saturday morning; and at 10 a.m. a general business meeting at which all CSNA members are urged to be present. The banquet, major social event of the convention, will be held Saturday evening, with a fine dinner and good entertainment provided. On Sunday, instead of the usual noon luncheon, there will be a "post-mortem" buffet for those who remain.

The auction, conducted by Leo A. Young, will be held in two sessions, Friday and Saturday afternoons. This will be Young's eighth consecutive CSNA auction sale. Included will be type sets and complete sets of U.S. commemoratives in brilliant uncirculated condition; proof sets in single lots and in quantity; the world-famous King Farouk Panama Pacific set, guaranteed to be from the palace collection of Egypt (estimated at $3750); trade dollar set in proof; shield and V nickels in proof; an almost complete set of U.S. large cents, completely attributed and with many outstanding rarities; U.S. type set, 1793 to date, including 1796 dimes, quarters, etc.; complete uncirculated set Liberty Standing quarters; large uncirculated roll section; extensive offering of numismatic books; choice items from the Dr. H. Davis Odd and Curious collection; and a continuation of the highly popular dealers and investors section.

Ample space is being provided for both bourse and exhibits. Dealers may arrange for bourse space ($20) by writing W. E. Johnson, 644 E. Valerio St., Santa Barbara. Individual exhibitors should register their displays and reserve display cases (50 cents per case) through the exhibit chairman, Roy Hill, 1140 Sutter St., San Francisco 9.

The Hotel Mar Monte, situated overlooking the ocean, promises to provide ideal convention facilities in a beautiful resort atmosphere. Rates for rooms with bath are single, $8; double, $10. Reservations should be made directly with the Hotel Mar Monte. Please be sure to state that you are to attend the CSNA Convention.

Harry S. Davidson, convention general chairman, has announced appointment of the following committee chairmen: co-chairman, William H. Spence; registration, Thomas W. Ward; exhibits, Roy Hill; bourse, W. E. Johnson; security, Elmar Kluth; awards, Milton C. Strauch; forum, Thomas W. Ward; auction, Leo A. Young; publicity, Robert W. DeMott; banquet, Herbert M. Bergen; and hospitality, Mrs. J. J. O'Brien and Mrs. Don W. Jurgensen.

Your host will be the recently-formed Santa Barbara Coin Club, a young but fast-growing organization. Its president, Robert W. DeMott, reports that the enthusiasm of the club's membership, coupled with the ideal setting Santa Barbara provides, should serve to make this one of our best conventions.

1957 PNNA CONVENTION

The 1957 Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association convention will be held at the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore., May 24-26.

Leo A. Young, P.O. Box 115, Lockeford, Calif., has been awarded the convention auction sale, his second consecutive one. Young is now soliciting consignments for the sale.

Who's Who In California Numismatics

Milton C. Strauch

By R. G. McARTHUR

Few persons have attended more CSNA conventions or have won more exhibit awards than Milton Strauch, Daly City. Originally a stamp collector, Milton became interested in coins in 1938.

"One night a friend of the family took us out to a restaurant. After dinner, as we passed his hotel, he turned to me and asked if I would be interested in some Mexican coins that he just recently had picked up on a trip in Mexico. By sheer curiosity I said 'yes'. Why I wanted the coins I never will know for sure."

His original collection, which consisted of various types and denominations of coins of the world, was stolen in September, 1954.

Since the robbery, Strauch has specialized in coins of the Netherlands, Belgium and their colonies, building up a very nearly complete type set of the coins of those countries.

"I have about 1800 coins in my collection now. Of these, 65 are gold and the rest are silver, copper, etc. Of the coins in my cabinet, 99.9% are uncirculated or better. I do not want bum coins. Every coin is valuable to me whether I pay $100 or $1 for it, as each has a spot in my numismatic heart."

His article, "History of the Lowlands Through Numismatics", published in the January 1956 **Calcoin News** and other papers, attests to the fact that Milton is fast becoming an authority in his chosen field.

Milton Clifford Strauch, son of Albert and Leah Strauch, was born Nov. 4, 1926, in San Francisco, California, where his parents presently reside.

He was educated in San Francisco, attending Cabrillo Grammar School, Presidio Junior High School, George Washington High School and the University of San Francisco.

Milton Strauch and Esther Gravitch were married June 6, 1948, and are now responsible for two "potential numismatists". Michael, 7, and Terri, 4, two very charming children, "seem interested in the hobby as they broadcast to the neighborhood whenever I work on my coins".

Milton, in partnership with his father, owns and operates the San Francisco Bedding Co., a firm which manufactures mattresses, boxsprings and divans. His job is employer, buyer, troubleshooter, superintendent and anything else when the going is tough and help is needed.

The Strauch library contains many books on coins of the world, supplemented by Collier's Encyclopedia. Milton corresponds with fellow numismatists in the Netherlands, Albania, Portugal, Yugoslavia, India and Australia. Through this correspondence, he gains not only in knowledge but in the more material side of numismatics.

As member No. 69, Strauch joined the Pacific Coast Numismatic Asso-

(Turn to Page 103)

Chinese, Japanese and Korean Coins

By ALAN D. CRAIG, Berkeley

1. Q: Does Japanese or Korean coinage go as far back as Chinese?

A: No. Chinese knife-shape coinage with six characters, "Everlasting Legal Money of Ch'i at the Establishment of the State", is authoritatively tentatively dated between 1079 and the first half of the ninth century, B.C. This NW Honan money itself may have been styled from yet older Chinese coinage of a bordering state — possibly Chi-mo (tip of Shantung peninsula). In Japan, issue of round hole-center coins with four characters, "Japanese Copper Introductory Treasure", began in 708 A.D., and Korean iron coins — a Chinese-coin obverse with "Korea" on the reverse — came out in 996 A.D.

These appear to be the oldest known Chinese, Japanese and Korean **coins.** Miscellaneous objects used monetarily before, during and after are many, from which objects monetary prototypes, then coins and monetary systems sprang.

* * *

2. Q: Seen on modern coins of both countries, did the dragon originate in China or Japan?

A: There are undatable and ancient references from this and other parts of the world to dragons. Nature originated "dragons" in Paleozoic time.

* * *

3. Q: The dragon on the coins has to do with what Chinese religion or philosophy, and what does this design mean?

A: The dragon has to do with all East Asia, whose general religions and philosophies complementarily blend — unlike the West's more usual situation of "this irreconcilable belief, that irreconcilable belief, yonder irreconcilable belief" **et seq.** and comparative religious disjointing of the actual from the metaphysical. East Asian religions, philosophies and allied institutions are from a lineage of innate tolerance and union, and the dragon symbol gained usages not only in philosophies and religions but in much of East Asian life in general.

The dragon design on the coins betokens happiness and salvation through sharing in striving for supreme perception and propriety. The dragon strives after a mystical spherical Symbol which is, by cause of such a concordant religious and philosophical environment, an impressive presentation of God in effect, and this is how: In Buddhism, the Sphere is interpreted as a marvelous glowing pearl: the sacred **Pearl of Perfection;** in Taoism, the sacred **Yueh Pearl** which grants all needs. It also was interpreted as the sun, and as **Yin Yang,** the divinely wise spontaneity of things. Perfection and needs filled likened to the pearl's beauty and marketability, solar glory likened to parentage in a life cycle, **Yin Yang's** guidance likened to harmonious paradise: worldly parallels of and kinship to divine marvels, introduced as one — by a religious and philosophical unity — appear to be of a unified Identity indeed.

Age-old symbol of the Chinese Empire, the dragon expressly portrayed the emperor. Dual imperial dragons, seeking an illustrious Sphere of achievements the better to serve and inspire their people, portrayed the dynasty's emperors perpetually following one another in the sublime quest. The design's theme was empire, dynasty and emperors seeking together greatness of a Holy and transcendant kind. No malign beings, these dragons!

* * *

4. Q: How does the Japanese dragon differ from the Chinese and Korean on modern coins?

A: The Japanese is **one** dragon which **clutches** the Sphere in its right front talons. The often small-in-size Sphere is **striven after** and **not** clutched by the **dual** dragons or the one dragon on Chinese modern coins and on pre-1892 Korean. On post-1891 Korean coins, a dragon clutches the Sphere.

5. Q: Doesn't the sprawling dragon seem ugly for a coin design?

A: The dragons are not "sprawling"; they are heraldic. This design is not ugly; it is a symbol of utilitarian revelation, one of eternal value, appeal and beauty. Happiness and salvation through sharing in striving for supreme perception and propriety is, indeed, the essence of all logical religion and philosophy.

East Asian Allegory of Imperial Dragons and Mystic Sphere

The Sphere's appendagry is by way of a halo.

Comment on CSNA Management Policy

The following letter, written to the Calcoin News editor, is printed here in full because the thoughts contained should be placed before our membership as a whole. —The Editor.

Dear Charley:

At the recent meeting of our CSNA Board of Directors you heard the question raised as to limitations we would face in finding new Board members and still keeping within the unwritten law about maintaining geographical spread in the representation. The more I think about this the more I am convinced that we were right in deciding not to be influenced by what critics might say.

Having been on the Board more than five years and now approaching retirement therefrom, I speak with assurance in saying that for this length of time anyway, there never have been ulterior motives behind Board actions. Sometimes we were hard put to it to maintain geographical balance but, up to now, not only have we done that but we have managed at the same time to keep the official body a harmonious group willing to put CSNA welfare above self-interest.

From now on I shall oppose thinking too much about geography. Now that CSNA has attained its present standing with California numismatists and holds a high place among regional organizations of the United States, I suggest non-geographical fundamentals in selecting men for leadership. For example:

1) The good of the organization must come first.

2) Qualifications of the individual must be considered as carefully as his ability and his willingness to serve (availability). Often the man who seeks office is not the best choice.

3) Relatively few meet all qualifications for leadership, and as our organization grows and responsibilities of office become heavier, the requirements are still higher.

The time has passed when we can give much consideration to where the candidate resides. We have not been and we never should be swayed by prejudice or preference. We need the most competent men to direct the affairs of the best possible statewide organization; let's get the best men available, regardless of the part of the state from which they come!

Nathan A. Bowers.

Asks History Help

Erich Werling, CSNA curator-historian, is in process of writing a history of the California State Numismatic Association for the 10th Anniversary issue of **Calcoin News.** Erich requests from members any early history of the Association prior to 1952.

He also would appreciate the following issues of the **CSNA Bulletin** and **Calcoin News:** Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3 (1947); Vol. 2, Nos. 1, 2, 3 (1948); Vol. 3, Nos. 2, 3, 4 (1949); Vol. 4, Nos. 2, 3, 4 (1950); Vol. 5, Nos. 4, 6 (1951); and Vol. 6, No. 4 (1952).

Monetary Beginning

By PAUL D. SNEDAKER, San Francisco

While reading a very old family Bible, I found that many of the parables and verses referred to silver as the money of ancient times.

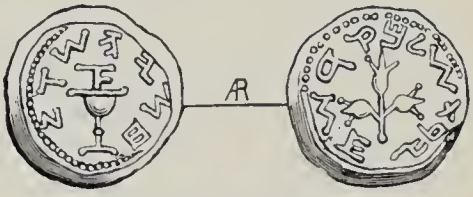
From this beautiful volume, which contains many pictures and information of historic value in addition to the Scriptures, I obtained the knowledge being presented to you in this paper.

* * *

There is no evidence of the use of coined money before the return from the Babylonian Captivity; but silver was used for money in quantities determinate by weight, at least, as early as the time of Abraham; its earliest mention is in the generic sense of the price paid for a slave, for in the 17th chapter of Genesis, 13th verse, it states, "And he that is bought with thy money." The 1000 pieces of silver paid by Abimelech to Abraham and the 20 pieces of silver for which Joseph was sold to the Ishmaelites, were probably r i n g s, such as we see on the Egyptian monuments in the act of being weighed.

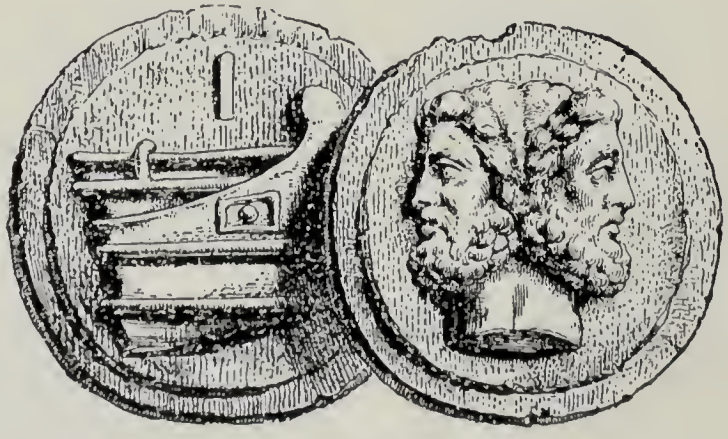
In the first recorded transaction of commerce, the cave of Machpelah was purchased by Abraham for 400 shekels of silver. It was this by weight that was current with the merchants. Money is not in the original, for in Genesis 23rd chapter, 16th verse, it says, "Abraham weighed to Ephron the s i l v e r, which he had named, 400 shekels of silver, current money with the merchants." The shekel weight of silver was the unit of value through the whole age of Hebrew history down to the Babylonian Captivity.

No native Jewish coinage appears to have existed until Antiochus VII Sidetes granted Simon Maccabaeus the license to coin money in 140 B.C.



SHEKEL OF ISRAEL
Size Reduced

It is now generally agreed that the oldest Jewish silver coins belong to this period. They are shekels and half shekels of 220 and 110 grains. With this silver there was associated a copper coinage, some pieces of which have been supposed to reach as far back as Judas Maccabaeus; but probably none are really older than John Hyrcanus, 135 B.C., from whom the series is continued, almost without interruption, to the end of the Asmonaean house. Most of them are marked as the half or quarter (doubtless of the shekel), their average w e i g h t s being 235½ and 132 grains. There is a third piece of



AS OF ANCIENT ROME

about 82 grains, which seems to be the sixth of a shekel.

The abundant money of Herod the Great seems to have been a continuation of the copper coinage of the Maccabees, with some adaption to the Roman standard. It appears to be of three denominations: the smallest a piece of brass, the next a double, and the third a treble. Some specimens are much like the abundant copper coinage of Alexander Jannaeus, and seem to have been connected on one hand with the quarter shekel of the old coinage, and on the other with the farthing of the New Testament.

The word "farthing" seems to be used for two different coins: first, the Roman asses, which by the successive reductions of the Roman copper coinage, had come to signify merely the 16th part of the reduced denarius of the early Imperial Age, or less than a half penny.

The other farthing is defined as two mites, but at this time there were no Roman coins current in a smaller value than the asses, and this farthing and mite are doubtless of the Maccabaen and Herodian copper coinage. The mite may have been that smallest copper coin, which is supposed to have been the sixth of a shekel, and the farthing probably was the smallest Herodian coin, reduced from the Asmonaean quarter shekel.

The use of the mite among the poorest of the people is indicated by the affecting circumstance that the poor widow cast two such pieces into the treasury to make up the insignificant sum of a farthing.

The ordinary silver currency of Palestine was the Roman denarius, the "penny" so frequently mentioned in the Gospels. It was a silver piece equal to 10 asses, but with the successive reductions of the as, it had become, after the time of Augustus, equal to 16 asses.

DENARIUS OF TIBERIUS
"Tribute Penny"

From the parable of the laborers in the vineyards, it would seem that the rate of wages was a denarius a day. A denarius was considered the fourth part of the silver stater which, in turn, was considered the equivalent of the shekel.

The "Thirty Pieces of Silver", promised to Judas as the price of his treachery, in all probability denote shekels, as in the Old Testament numerals are given without specific values, like the "Thirty of Silver" in Zechariah's prophecy of this very transaction.

The shekel has been estimated variously at from 50 to 62½ cents American money, which would indicate Christ was betrayed for approximately $18.75.

MORE ON

Milton C. Strauch

(Continued from Page 99)

ciation in 1947. He served that organization as secretary in 1949 and as a member of the board of governors in 1955 and 1956. He is life member No. 274 in the American Numismatic Association and is a member of the American Numismatic Society. Milton is member No. 191 in the California State Numismatic Association, which he joined in 1947.

His service to CSNA includes the display committee at the April 1954 convention and the awards committee at the April 1956 convention.

Speaking of awards, Strauch has won many for his outstanding coin exhibits, including those at the following CSNA conventions: Fresno, February 1948; San Jose, April 1949; Long Beach, November 1950; Santa Cruz, April 1951; Santa Rosa, April 1952; Los Angeles, October 1953; San Francisco, April 1954; Riverside, October 1954; Oakland, April 1955 and San Diego, November 1955. Due to no fault of his own, Milton will **not** win an award at the coming Santa Barbara convention. The reason? He will serve as awards chairman for that show.

Medicine in Antiquity

Romulus and Remus

By DR. C. GLENN CURTIS and BILL TOBITT

The chief of the Obstetrics Service at Rome's General Hospital looked worried. And well he might. It wasn't so much the fact that the woman obviously was going to deliver at least twins. He could handle that.

What bothered him was the girl herself. Good looking. Beautiful, if you discount those grimaces.

And a virgin?

It said so right there on her Blue Cross card, dated just that year, 776 B.C., and issued to a group called the Amalgamated Order of Vestals.

Rhea Sylvia was her name. Her job? Tending the fire at Vesta's Temple.

Everybody knew these Vestal girls were virgins. It was in their contract. And her contract still had 25 of its 30 years to go.

So who goofed? A thing like this could throw old King Amullius into a snit of a tiz — and he was a hell-raising tizzer if there ever was one. He didn't want anyone fooling around with **his virgins.**

And yet the chief of obstetrics had to know. It had to go on her chart. And the record librarian always sent a summary of the day's business to the palace. Too many citizens were deducting hospital expenses they didn't have and shorting the king on his taxes.

So the OB waited for the next break in the labor rhythm.

"Who's the father?" he asked.

"My God—!"

"Yes, I know it hurts. But who did it?"

"I'm telling you. My god — Mars. He did."

"Oh, well, in that case . . . oops—! it's time."

The delivery went nicely. And it was twin boys, Romulus and Remus. After they were nicely tucked into their bassinets and mama was wheeled into her private room, the OB shucked his gloves and gown and relaxed in the staff room with a goblet of grapejuice.

This is going to take some figuring, he figured. Amullius won't like this a little bit. Especially with Mars in the act. Probably daddy will thunderbolt Amullius off his throne and put his twins in it. But if we can get the kids out of the way everything will be fine.

Just a darned minute, Curtis. Have your fun with legend — but don't go twisting it so one of our brethren is made out a potential murderer. —Editor.

Keep your shirt on, Ed. Sure, Amullius did the banishing act. But you wanted medicine in on this, didn't you? Okay. Shut up and let me tell it. —Curtis.

So that's what the obstetrics man did. He knew he'd be getting the chill from the town's pediatricians but he had to take that risk. He knew of a general practitioner down the River Tiber a piece. A kindly soul with a lactating wife. The general practitioner eked out his income by tending sheep on his day off.

The OB called a couple of his secretaries — they were called slaves in those days — and filled them in on the picture. They said they'd take care of it immediately, sir. And they did. Only not exactly as the OB had planned.

It was raining outside. Had been for days. The slaves didn't cotton to the idea of walking a couple of miles in the muck. And in the dead of night, too. So they put Romulus and Remus together in one wicker bassinet, put the bassinet in the Tiber, pointed it downstream toward the general practitioner's pasture and let it go.

It worked out fine. The GP, shepherding because it was Wednesday— now it is called golfing — heard two polite little burps in the bushes alongside the river. Peeking, he saw his first referrals — Romulus and Remus.

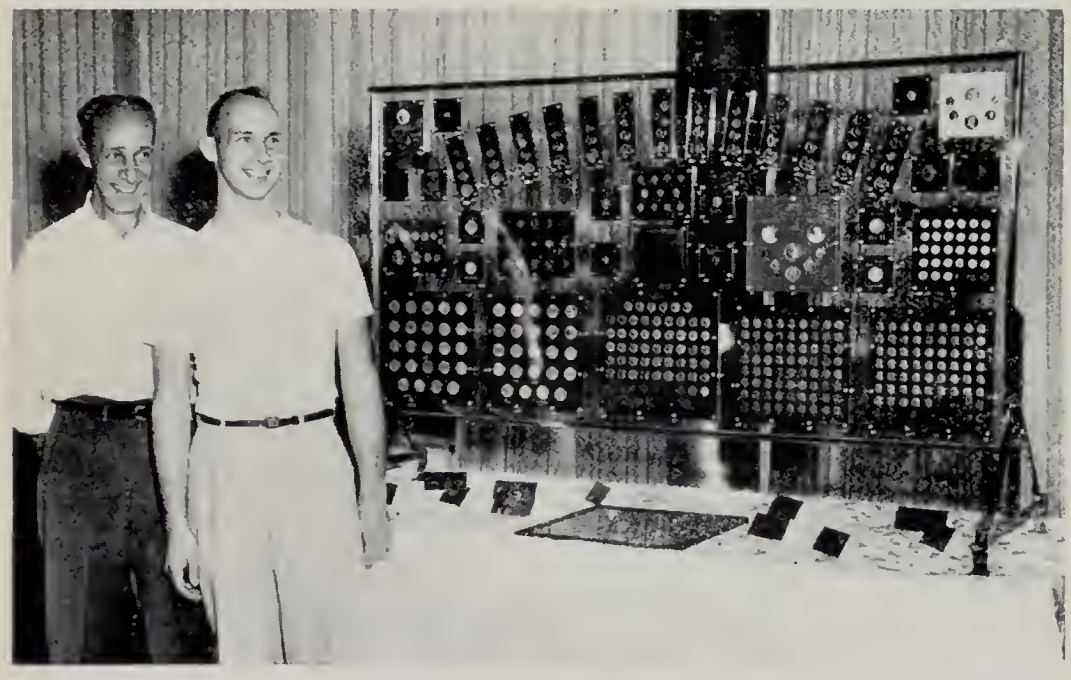
They weren't alone. Each kid had his mouth around a teat dangling from a motherly wolf who, as a non-union midwife, had been having a heck of a time finding work until she ran across the twins.

Not sure of the formula, the GP dismissed the wolf with thanks and took the babes home to his wife, whose formula was standard pharmacopeia.

Thus reared, Romulus and Remus grew to young manhood and founded Rome, named after Romulus who killed Remus on account of it.

If this seems peculiar on account of Rome already being there, skip it. Even the Romans aren't sure how or when their city got started. And for your information, a close search by the writer of the Rome General Hospital's charts for 776 B.C. failed to disclose any record of the virgin's delivery.

Probably the OB just forgot to write it up.



FIRST AWARD IN THE INDIVIDUAL CLASS OF THE 1956 NATIONAL COIN WEEK exhibits contest was won by Gene N. Nichols (right) of Balboa Island, Calif. Nichols and his father, Kenneth L. Nichols, are shown standing beside the display which was judged best in the nation by the American Numismatic Association. The collection, valued at $15,000, will be exhibited at the CSNA convention in Santa Barbara Nov. 8-11. Last year Nichols won second place in the contest. He is assistant manager and buyer for The Waffle Shop, Balboa Island.

California Club News, Views and Whos

Local club secretaries and representatives are reminded that deadline for getting their news and reports to the editors of **Calcoin News** is the first of the month preceding date of issue. This means, for example, that copy for this September issue was due in the editors' hands by Aug. 1.

Clubs in Southern California should mail their news to William H. Spence, 11807 S. Atkinson Ave., Inglewood 4, Calif. Those in Northern California should mail reports to William H. Connell, 2009 86th Ave., Oakland 21, Calif.

East Bay Coin Club

Meets 2nd Friday, 8 P.M., at Danish Hall, 164 11th St., Oakland, Second Floor

Thirty-seven members and eight guests attended the June meeting, presided over by Walt Ritchie in the absence of the president.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Sloan for her work in the preparation of a new membership listing to be available to all members.

Displays were made and described by Roy Hill, Greenland 1944, 5-ore, made at Philadelphia Mint and reis coins of Brazil, 1818-1820; Edward Fogler, Confederate paper money; David Robertson, Swiss crown; Kirby Brown, set Spanish "Carolus" coins; Leo Young, Panama-Pacific set; Frank Church, Confederate paper money; Barney O'Hea, Dominican Republic $30 gold; Ken Allen, 1- and 3-cent Confederate bills; Charles Bigelow, Liberty Seated coin; Clifford Bloom, official Mexican mint bar of pure gold, 9997 fine, minimum bar of 50 grams.

The ANA slides on Confederate Currency were well received. Roy Hill was narrator. Walt Ritchie operated the projector.

Leo Young conducted the 44-lot auction. Refreshments were served.

—D. J. Redmond,
Recording Secretary.

Long Beach Coin Club

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7:30 P.M., at Linden Hall, 208 Linden Ave., Long Beach

Ida Mae Griffin, a member of the Long Beach Coin Club who has collected exclusively from circulation, displayed many completed sets in the U.S. series and told of her record finds at the June 5 meeting.

During the past two and one-half years she has found ten 1909S VDB cents, nine 1914D cents, an Isabella quarter and two complete sets of Buffalo nickels in very fine or better condition, nearly all having full horns. Mrs. Griffin believes this is a record for collecting entirely from circulation.

The source of Mrs. Griffin's lucky finds — she has been nicknamed "Lucky" — lies in her work with the local newspaper, where she operates a Standard Johnson coin machine. This machine sorts and counts large quantities of small change received by the newspaper's circulation department. As many as $300 in cents alone are handled each day. Mrs. Griffin says she can spot an early cent mingled with other cents and coins in the hopper of this machine by its appearance and color.

—Charles M. Johnson,
Reporter.

Los Angeles Coin Club

Meets 1st Friday, 8 P.M., at Foresters' Hall, Los Angeles

At the 340th meeting July 6, a new attendance record of 168 members and guests was set, exceeding that of the April meeting at which 157 were present. Another record was established at this meeting, with 13 new members joining the club. President Earl Glen Whitehead presided.

Eight past presidents of the 16 who have led the club in its 28-year his-

tory were present at this meeting. They were introduced to those present and photographed for the history of the club now being prepared by Dr. Charles Harbeck.

Lewis M. Reagan, ANA general secretary, was honored guest and featured speaker. He discussed the contribution of the ANA to numismatics in general, and commented on the tremendous growth of that organization in the past 10 years. Reagan also presented Michael P. Carey, one of the past presidents of the Los Angeles Coin Club, with a certificate of honorary membership in the ANA. At the conclusion of the program, Reagan was awarded an honorary membership in the Los Angeles Coin Club, as was H. A. Seaby of B. A. Seaby, Ltd., London, England.

An exhibit of ANA material: medals, plaque, membership pins and cards, membership directory, library list and copies of the **Numismatist** was displayed by Mr. and Mrs. William H. Spence. Following refreshments and a drawing for door prizes, the regular monthly auction was conducted by George Bennett.

* * *

The 339th meeting was held June 1. President Earl Glen Whitehead presided over 142 members and guests present.

Clarence K. Sexton, Ronald R. Thompson, George A. Presby, William G. Eubank, Oliver L. Graham, Paul R. Smith, Warren E. Eyman, George Olsen and L. D. LaTourrette were voted into membership.

Guest speaker was Thomas W. Ward of Fallbrook, secretary-treasurer of the CSNA. Ward, a specialist in the field of ancient coins, addressed the club on the subject "Roman - American Coins". He described the devices and inscriptions used by the Romans, and illustrated how they are used on our American coins. He accompanied his talk with a fine display of Roman coins, including some depicting temples, buildings, animals and figures, covering the period 255 B.C. to 235 A.D.

Karl M. Brainard conducted the regular monthly auction.

—Mrs. O. S. Garretson,
Secretary.

———CSNA———

During the years 1870-1880, a total of 10 national gold banks were organized in California.

Monterey Park Coin Club

Meets 2nd Monday at
Monterey Park Community Center,
Monterey Park

The July 9 meeting was attended by 35 members and guests. Jack Reberry gave an informative talk about the 3-cent piece and displayed his collection of 3-cent proofs and patterns. A $2.50 gold piece and a 1955 proof set were given as door prizes. The auction was conducted by John Munnecke.

* * *

The June 11 meeting was attended by 31 members and guests. A 1955 mint set and a 1955 proof set were given as door prizes. An interesting display of gold and a Flying Eagle proof was made by one of the guests. John Munnecke conducted the auction. Lemonade and cookies were served.

—Mrs. Vera Schymos,
Corresponding Secretary.

Orange Co. Coin Club

Meets 4th Wednesday,
8 P.M., at Woman's
Clubhouse, Brea

The July 25 meeting was attended by 160 members and guests. Dr. Don K. Shields, collector of the month, gave a short talk on his experiences as a coin collector, both from a profit angle and the numismatic standpoint, emphasizing that any profits from the sale of rolls were reinvested immediately in interesting numismatic items.

Guest speaker was Cyrus H. Phillips, representative of the Bank of America, whose subject was "Historical Background of American Coinage". This was accompanied by a representative display of American coins and illustrated by a series of slides furnished by the ANA for this particular lecture, which has been given in many schools and service clubs. This was the first time Phillips had given this talk to a coin club. From the first mint established in Boston in 1652 under Mintmaster

John Hull who coined shillings, sixpences and threepences and the Fugio cent of 1787 (first coin struck by authority of the Federal Constitution), he followed the history of American coinage. The first edifice built for public service was the Philadelphia Mint in 1792 and the first coin struck was the half disme from the household silver of George Washington. These were distributed as souvenir pieces. Regular coinage commenced with the large cent and half cent in 1793. Slides and specimens of the two-cent piece, first coin to bear the motto "In God We Trust"; Isabella quarter, only coin to bear a foreign ruler's portrait; and Lafayette dollar, only commemorative coin of this denomination, were shown.

* * *

Two hundred and sixteenth meeting, June 27, President Courreges presiding; 154 present; exhibits, auction, refreshments; five new members admitted; two members reinstated.

President Courreges introduced charter member No. 2, Joe Steele, who conducted a program — "Review of Orange County Coin Club" — in which he recounted the formation and history of the club and called upon 12 of the original 20 charter members present to speak about their association and activities through the 18 years of its existence.

First president, Allen Beisel, charter member No. 1, was the first to respond with his recollections of a group of Orange County coin collectors who frequently gathered in his shop at Santa Ana to talk about coins, trade specimens and, finally, to call a meeting for the purpose of organizing a club. Other charter members who followed with brief talks were Claude Bolton, Captain R. S. Fink, Lloyd Gowdy, Ralph Hillman, Dr. Dale Phetteplace, Dr. C. Glenn Curtis and Herbert Bergen. All expressed their pride in the growth of the club and the pleasure they have had in helping it grow.

Letters and messages were read from several charter members who were unable to attend the reunion. A fine tribute also was given to Harry Hanson, charter member No. 9, who died recently.

After the charter members were heard, Joe Steele called on the past presidents of the club for remarks. As he introduced each one, he mentioned the main events and accomplishments of his term in office. Special note was made of the two past presidents who are deceased, Harry Hanson and J. R. Stewart. It also was remarked that it is a precedent with the club that no president has served more than one term in that office.

The audience, the largest attendance at a regular monthly meeting, gave Joe Steele a big hand for his exceedingly interesting program which served to better acquaint newer members and guests with the old-timers who are largely responsible for the record growth and continued strength of the club.

* * *

Two hundred and fifteenth meeting, May 23, President Courreges presiding; 149 present; refreshments, exhibits, auction; seven new members admitted.

Program Chairman Colver introduced C. L. Grimm of Chicago and Santa Monica who gave a short talk about his display of Colonial coins. Grimm is one of the foremost collectors of this very interesting series and everyone present expressed the wish that he would return to speak at length about his special field of collecting. More of our members will become Colonial collectors if he does.

"Odd, Curious and Interesting Money of the World, Ancient and Present" was the subject of the evening's program presented by Leo Young of Lockeford, Calif., one of the outstanding dealers of the West. Money, he said, originated with ancients who created tokens to signify ownership of chattels such as cattle, horses, tools of husbandry and wives These tokens took many forms and continued to be used long after the first coins were made for use as money. Some of the remote peoples of the world still use primitive types of tokens for barter and trade. The speaker exhibited some of these primitive tokens, such as cowrie shells, wampum, salt bricks and others too numerous to list. One of his prize exhibits was a full set of Hudson Bay Company "Beaver Skin Tokens", including the very rare two-skin token.

At the conclusion of his program, Young took time to explain the many items in his display to the members who crowded around his exhibit ask-

ing questions. It was one of the most educational programs in the long list of fine programs held by the club. Come back for another session, Leo.

—Herb Bergen,
Secretary.

Peninsula Coin Club

Meets 1st Thursday at Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 725 University Ave., Palo Alto

While President Stanley Blois was vacationing, Roy Hill, vice-president, presided at the 28th regular meeting July 5. Eighteen members and guests attended.

James A. Mussatti, general manager of the California State Chamber of Commerce, told members that the government has plans to demolish the old mint building at 5th and Mission Sts. in San Francisco to make room for a parking lot. Discussion was held on how the various clubs might get together to bring enough pressure to bear so that the old mint could be preserved — perhaps for a museum.

Guest speaker was Dennis Olswang of San Francisco, who spoke on "Canadian Numismatics".

Numerous interesting exhibits were shown by Roy Hill, Ed Gamble, William Mackey, James A. Mussatti, R. F. White, Ralph Mitchell, Phil Stevenson, Ann Schmidt, Jim Lyons and Dennis Olswang.

The manager of the Bank of America in Palo Alto has asked the club to make a permanent display in the bank's window, as the exhibit shown for National Coin Week attracted much favorable attention.

A lively auction was conducted by Ralph Mitchell.

* * *

Stanley Blois, president, presided over the June 7 meeting, with 23 members and guests in attendance.

Merritt C. Speidel invited all members to be his guests at a dinner at Rickey's and a committee was appointed to arrange a date.

Guest speaker was James Mussatti, general manager of the California Chamber of Commerce, who opened his talk with some brief remarks concerning the tremendous growth in population of California. This was especially appropriate, since the club was entertaining a guest, M. R. Dodd of Lakeland, Fla.

Exhibits were shown by Ralph Mitchell, R. F. White, Merritt C. Speidel, Jim Lyons, Phil Stevenson, Richard Douglas, Bert C. Jacobs, W. T. Mackey, M. R. Dodd, Stanley Blois and Roy Hill.

Three new members were admitted: James A. Mussatti, Richard Douglas and Robert Weber.

—Letha Gamble,
Secretary.

San Bernardino Co. Coin Club

Meets 3rd Thursday, 8 P.M., at Legion Hall, 631 "G" St., San Bernardino

The 97th regular meeting was opened by President A. Ben Coon at the VFW Hall July 19, with a record attendance of 57 members and guests. Dan Harley, club mintmaster, conducted badge inspection and introduced the guests, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. Luis P. Dohnalek, Mr. and Mrs. L. Lloyd Edmonds of Waco, Tex., Mr. and Mrs. William H. Spence, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart J. Bingham, Marilyn and Linda Cohen, Alan Novack and E. S. Chapman. Applications for membership were received from G. O. Schmidtman, Kyle Jones and Mary Moynihan.

Program chairman Bryan O. Burke Jr. continued the series on U.S. coins with a showing of the ANA slide set on minor types. The various exhibits, comprising an almost complete display of the U.S. series, were supplied by several members.

Burglar-proof coin safes (in the form of china "piggy" banks, each with a small bell attached) were awarded to the following for displaying the coins indicated: E. S. Chapman, thinnest and poorest; O. H. Lages, thickest U.S. coin; William H. Spence, most complete current U.S. set (pocket change); J. Valery, most humorous U.S. coin; Mrs. E. C. Kessler, coin guaranteeing equal rights. Potter Palmer was awarded a crystal ball for the most clairvoyant coin.

The meeting concluded with the serving of refreshments and the regular monthly auction conducted by Andrew Verbance.

The 96th meeting June 21 was attended by 41 members and three guests.

Program chairman Bryan O. Burke Jr. initiated the first in a series of meeting programs on the U.S. series by humorously describing the peculiarities of both collectors and dealers of U.S. coins. President A. Ben Coon gave a resume of how dealers classify material in their advertising to encourage the reluctant buyer. Hairlines, cabinet friction, tarnish worn proofs, bent, edge nicks and other terms were well illustrated by his exhibit. Dan Harley contributed examples of facsimiles, second choices, mint luster and chop-marked gems. Charles G. Colver displayed Franklin cents and Howard Smith commented on dealer refunds and owners' ideas of condition. Fred Coops, a dealer member, had ready rebuttals for various objections to dealer practices and asserted that dealers, classed by some as necessary evils, are really storehouses of countless treasures.

Maj. Henry H. Hanisee Jr. and his staff of judges awarded certificates and "valueless" prizes as follows: to Charles G. Colver, medal (decorated with steel wool) for the most worn U.S. proof; to Fred Draper, medal (salt shaker for "old salt") for the oldest U.S. coin; to Howard Smith, medal (with toy monkey) for the most humorous; to M. Kolman, medal (with cork flower) for the best and most beautiful; to Fred Coops, medal (with half pendant) for the U.S. coin in poorest condition.

After refreshments and auction Jerry Levine, who is about to enter military service, was presented with a 1956D cent — to be carried with him and brought back to the club upon his return. All three door prizes were won by one of the junior members, Howard Kolman, in a precedent-shattering coincidence.

—L. L. Brown,
Recording Secretary.

San Diego Numismatic Society

Meets 1st Monday, 8 P.M., at YMCA Auditorium, 1115 8th Ave., San Diego

Two hundred and thirtieth meeting July 2, YMCA; James Andersen presided; 85 present; exhibits, auction and refreshments.

Leonel C. Panosh, program chairman, introduced Lewis M. Reagan, general secretary of the ANA, who spoke on the purposes and aims of the ANA. He praised the club's numismatic display at the San Diego County Fair.

Miss Marian Bowler showed colored slides taken in Japan and the Far East while she was with the U.S. Air Force.

* * *

Nineteenth Anniversary Dinner, June 9, Park Manor Hotel; 50 present; Leonel C. Panosh, master of ceremonies.

Panosh gave a brief history of the Society and stated that it is the third oldest club west of the Mississippi River.

Out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. John C. Yribarne of Redlands and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde L. Grimm of Santa Monica.

Exhibit prizes were won by Thomas Ward, special award; Eugene Cooper, first award; Dr. Bruce Wallace, second award; Atwood MacDonald, third award; and Arthur Vigneault, fourth award.

Other exhibitors were James Andersen, Paul Hamm, Francis S. Jones and Charles Leuschner.

—Francis S. Jones,
Correspondent.

San Fernando Valley Coin Club

Meets 3rd Monday in Round Robin Hall, 5901 Cahuenga Blvd., North Hollywood

July 16. — 58th meeting, 94 present. Auction, bourse, door prizes, refreshments.

Vice-President Karl Brainard introduced Miss Ida Mae Griffin, who told the membership of her amazing record of "finds" in circulation; among them ten '09S VDB, eight '14D, twenty-five to thirty '09S in fine to good. Speaker was Sol Alexander, who gave a most interesting talk on "Revolutionary Mexican Coinage", using his excellent display and a mounted map to illustrate the talk. Though the coins on display were in a condition that would be considered poor by collectors of U.S. coinage, they are about the best specimens available of this type of numismatics. Among them were coins cast in sand molds; a "Muerta

Huerta" or "death to Huerta" (a Mexican revolutionary general, who turned this motto against its creators when he took over by literally killing anyone found to possess these coins); and one-peso coins "struck" of silver coated cardboard!

* * *

June 19. — 57th meeting. Door prizes, refreshments, auction, bourse.

A record attendance of 106 heard Clyde L. Grimm talk on Colonial and early American coinage. Grimm had a remarkable display of these coins, including the pine tree shilling, Rosa Americana pieces, NE shilling, Nova Constellatio and Fugio cents. Auction was all uncirculated, gold, proof or complete sets with most lots selling well, the high purchase being $210 for a gold type set.

—Iris E. Baude,
Secretary.

CSNA

COUNT 'EM

You may like to test the accuracy of a statement as to the number of "reeds" there are around our modern U.S. silver coins. See if you can find that there are:

111 around the 10¢
119 around the 25¢
150 around the 50¢
189 around the $1

CALCOIN NEWS

Official Publication of the
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CSNA members receive Calcoin News without additional cost beyond their annual dues of $2.

VOL. 10 SEPTEMBER 1956 No. 5

San Jose Coin Club

Meets 1st Monday at First Federal Savings & Loan Assn. Bldg., 50 N. 1st St., 2nd St. entrance, Friendship Room

Twenty-nine members celebrated the club's 10th anniversary with a dinner at Mariani's Restaurant Aug. 6. John E. Ohls, PCNS president, spoke on "California Commemorative Coins".

Ten silver dollars were presented to those lucky enough to find tokens in their slices of the birthday cake.

Out-of-town members and guests present included Paul H. Wittlin, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Ohls and Earl A. Parker, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. McArthur, Oakland; and Ralph A. Mitchell and Stanley Blois, Palo Alto.

The July meeting was "All-Hobbies Night".

Vallejo Numismatic Society

Meets last Friday in Bohemian Room, Casa de Vallejo Hotel, Vallejo

The May 25 meeting was attended by 14 members and two guests.

Roy Hill of San Francisco was speaker. His topic was "Numismatic Ramblings". Roy pointed out that those planning summer vacations should include some "numismatic points of interest" such as one of our U.S. mints, the Treasury building, Federal Reserve banks, or if in Canada, the Royal Canadian Mint.

Those exhibiting were Bill Cummings, Indian Head cent set, Buffalo nickel set, both complete, and a 1937 Canadian mint set; Russ Dentel, Morgan or Liberty Head set; Walt Gerth, Chinese silver sycee and cuff link made from an 1876 U.S. quarter; Hawley Rich, 5-aurar of Iceland; Mike Carr, 1891S dollar, 1952 Canadian Mint set, complete set Roosevelt dimes and 1943 mint set; Jess King, sol of Peru, British trade dollar, 8-real of Spain, Swiss 5-franc and Abyssinian dollar; Don Rhodes, coins of George III of England.

—Hawley E. Rich,
Secretary-Treasurer.

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

748 BRITTAIN, Arthur W. .....229 Cypress Ave., San Bruno, Calif.
749 DANFORTH, Peter R. .....5824-A Hollister, Goleta, Calif.

ADDRESS CHANGES

640 GORDON, Jack J. .....2376 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles 64, Calif.
498 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COIN CLUB
Mrs. Iris E. Baude, Sec. .....16656 Labrador St., Granada Hills, Calif.
422 STAFFORD, Dwight A. .....4043 42nd St., San Diego 5, Calif.
586 STOLPER, Howard L. .....8964 Bartee St., Pacoima, Calif.
491 WITTLIN, Mrs. Anna.....825 Geary St., Apt. 503, San Francisco, Calif.
393 WITTLIN, Paul H. .....825 Geary St., Apt. 503, San Francisco, Calif.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on hand May 31, 1956		$1460.34
Receipts: 1956 dues	$ 10.00	10.00
Total receipts		1470.34
Disbursements: **Calcoin News**	580.41	
Transportation of cases	85.49	
Repairs to cases	12.02	
Postage and supplies	46.95	
Total disbursements		724 87
Cash on hand July 31, 1956		$ 745.47

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership May 31, 1956.....492
Membership July 31, 1956.....494
Paid-up members May 31, 1956.....299
Paid-up members July 31, 1956.....304

THOMAS W. WARD,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Vallejo Auction

Any dealer member of the CSNA is eligible to submit a bid for the CSNA spring convention auction, which will be held in the Hotel Casa de Vallejo at Vallejo, Calif., April 11-14, 1957.

The CSNA Executive Board will make the selection during the Nov. 8-11 state convention in Santa Barbara. Any dealer desiring information on the subject is invited to write the secretary for details.

Proposals should be submitted in writing, and, if desired, may be sealed, not to be opened until submitted to the Board Nov. 9.

Coming Attractions

Oct. 14, 1956 (Sunday) — East Bay Coin Club's annual "Coinival". Walt Ritchie, general chairman; Ed Fogler, auction chairman. Deadline for auction consignments Sept. 7.

* * *

Nov. 8-11, 1956 — Nineteenth semi-annual CSNA convention. Hotel Mar Monte, Santa Barbara. Harry S. Davidson, general chairman.

* * *

Feb. 22-24, 1957 — Second annual convention of Numismatic Association of Southern California. New Clark Hotel, 426 S. Hill St., Los Angeles. Earl Glen Whitehead, general chairman; Harold F. Donald, secretary.